

Counting On You

The Official Publication for the Episcopal Cursillo® Movement of the Diocese of Southeast Florida. Published Bi-monthly.

Jamaican Women's Weekend

On April 7-10, 2011, the second weekend of Jamaican women is scheduled. Palanca is requested. Check out the web site for more information: www.sef-cursillo.org



Note: Cursillo Leaders Workshop Was Cancelled

Secretariat Meeting



Bishop Frade and Cursillo leaders signed off on the Cursillo Pastoral Plan. See the plan on our web site.

In Memoriam

We regret the sad passing of our dear sister in Christ, Marcella Belgrave, wife of Carlos Belgrave, on Sunday, March 6th.

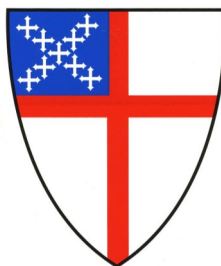
Marcella and Carlos made their Cursillo at the last Co-ed Cursillo weekend in the Diocese. Marcella was a member of St. David's in the Pines in Wellington.



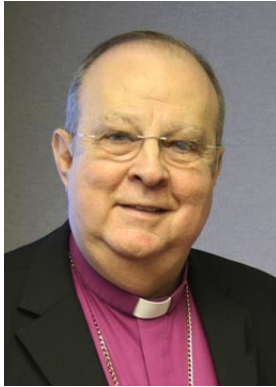
Mission Statement



The Episcopal Cursillo® of Southeast Florida, holds weekends that support the diocese in realizing its mission, by raising up leaders for the parishes, missions, diocese and the Wider Church.



The Cleansing Dirt



This is a true story. A friend of mine that owns a medical supply company hired a young woman who had recently arrived from Cuba. She was well educated, had all the academic requirements and

even spoke enough English. He told her to call him if she ever needed any help or if she had any questions.

Well, to make a long story short he got a call one afternoon from this young lady, who sounded rather alarmed. She wanted to know why most of the people in her office had come back from lunch with a dirty mark on their foreheads. Was this something required of her as an employee of that company that she simply had not been told? What was going on?

At the beginning of the conversation my friend was lost and didn't understand what was she talking about, but then he realized that he also had that black mark on his forehead. The ashes, that's what it was. He explained to her that on Ash Wednesday many Christians went to church to receive that mark on their foreheads. She had grown up in Cuba, a Communist country that had repressed religion for so long that several generations had grown up unaware of that tradition.

I believe that the little black mark on our foreheads, the mark we may take for granted, is more than a reminder of our mortality; it is also a cleansing dirt for the dirt on our souls. When we walk out of church we are reminded that we must take our cross and follow Jesus. Ash



“We must take our cross and follow Jesus...”

Wednesday is the beginning of the Lenten Season that reminds us that if you want to be filled you must fast, if you want to be forgiven you must first forgive, if you want to receive you must first give.

I pray that even if that black mark on our foreheads is now gone, we all may still remember throughout these 40 days that Lent has been set apart for us to deal with the wrongs that we have done, for “our blindness to human need and suffering and for our indifference to injustice and cruelty.” Actually, I feel at times that I need an extension, just as I do when I work on my taxes. Forty days is not enough time for us to deal with “our waste and pollution of creation.” Not enough time to deal with “pride, hypocrisy and impatience.”

I pray that the dirt on our foreheads will serve to cleanse the dirt from our souls, as well remind us of the fragility and brevity of our mortal lives. May God give us the strength to carry his cross so that we may alleviate our souls' burdens. May we be blessed richly during this season of Lent.

+ Leo Frade

*Bishop of Southeast Florida
Men's Cursillo #7*

The Beginning of Our Cursillo Season



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Spring is a wonderful time of year. It is the time for new growth and resurrection. It is a time of graduations and planning for summer vacation.

And, for us in the Cursillo community, it is the beginning of our “Cursillo Season.”

Teams are now forming to staff our upcoming weekends. The planning is well on its way and the preparations have begun. Now it is time for us to do our part and support these weekends with our prayer and service.

Our weekends for this year are as follows: Women’s Episcopal Cursillo #105 will be held on June 16-19. Men’s Episcopal Cursillo #88 is going to take place July 14-17. Then, on Sept. 15-18 we will have Women’s Episcopal Hispanic Cursillo #106.

Now is the time to start talking to your prospective candidates about attending a Cursillo. Tell them about Cursillo. Telling them about the talks, the tables, the posters, the singing, tell them everything they want to know.

For years the movement has fought the stigma of it being a secret society or a special club. This has come about because we are not forthcoming with information about the weekend. Please answer all questions a prospective candidate might have. In fact, ask them if they have any questions. If they say, “What’s this stuff about a serenade?” tell them. A

Cursillo serenade is like the rest of the weekend, you have to experience to understand it. Just knowing it is going to happen does not prepare you for the awesomeness of the event. I have sat through at least a dozen serenades and they never fail to move me. The same goes for the letters. Knowing they are coming does not prepare a person for the expressions of love and affection that are poured out in those letters. There is nothing about Cursillo that should be kept a secret. On the contrary, I think we should be telling everyone we meet about the wonderful experience that is Cursillo.

On the other hand, please don’t tell them to bring their golf clubs or tennis rackets. Those old jokes may be fun for us, but they just confuse a candidate who is probably already nervous and uncomfortable. Being honest and forthcoming with a candidate will go a long way toward helping them to have a positive weekend.

Also, please make sure your candidate understands that they may not get into the weekend coming up. Men often can get into the next weekend, but there is a waiting list for the ladies. It is best to tell all candidates that they will be called in God’s time.

It is our job to properly prepare a candidate for their Cursillo weekend with good information and positive reinforcement. If we are faithful to this task a candidate will have a much better chance of having the life changing experience that Cursillo has been to so many of us.

Jesus loves you and so do I.

Deacon Bob Sullivan
Diocesan Spiritual Director

From the Desk of our Lay Director



As I begin to write this, it is the last Sunday before Lent begins and we said the “A” word for the last time for 40 days. And so, we begin Lent this Wednesday with the reminder of the ashes – as the

Bishop said to remind us of the dirt we need to cleanse.

Many people give up something for Lent, but more recently, many people are taking on something for Lent. I guess we need a combination of both if we are going to truly grow and work towards being more “Christ-like”.

In our parish, the Daughters of the King prepare a Lenten Devotional each year which many in our parish add to their daily devotionals. One of the things I am going to do for additional prayer and study is use the Devotional each day. The reading for the day I was assigned was of when the Lord called Samuel. It reminded me of the song which we all love – Here I am Lord.

As I prepared my contribution for the Devotional, I reflected on how often I just respond or agree to something without necessarily trying to discern God’s will in what I am doing. So during Lent, I am going to try to listen more and try to hear how God is directing me in the various parts of my life.

As we begin to search out candidates for the upcoming weekends, we are told to speak to the Rector before we speak to the candidates. However, maybe we

need to listen to God. Who is He calling to the upcoming weekends? Do we ask who is God calling to become a leader in their parish and in the Diocese? Let us take this opportunity to identify the candidates that our Lord directs us to sponsor for the upcoming weekends.

On a different note, the Secretariat approved the purchase of a monitor for the Schofield Chapel at the Duncan Center. This is a donation from Cursillo to the Duncan Center which can be used and enjoyed by many different groups who are using illuminated services in the Chapel. The clergy will be able to see the same thing the congregation sees without having to turn around. This will make it much more user-friendly for the clergy for services in the Chapel.

We are planning to expand the committees of the Secretariat this year. If you are interested in serving on one of the committees, please contact me at barbaraehay@yahoo.com and let me know where you are interested in serving.

A reminder that there is an Episcopal Cursillo Leaders Workshop being held in the SW Florida Diocese in April and I strongly encourage you to attend if you are interested in moving into a leadership position within the Cursillo movement. It provides a great overview of the Cursillo method as well as weekends.

Till the next issue of COY, I encourage you to listen to what our Lord is saying to you and how you can grow and serve in your personal spiritual life, in your parish and in Cursillo. Ultreya!

Your Sister in Christ
Barbara MacKenzie

A Word from the Weekend Committee Chair



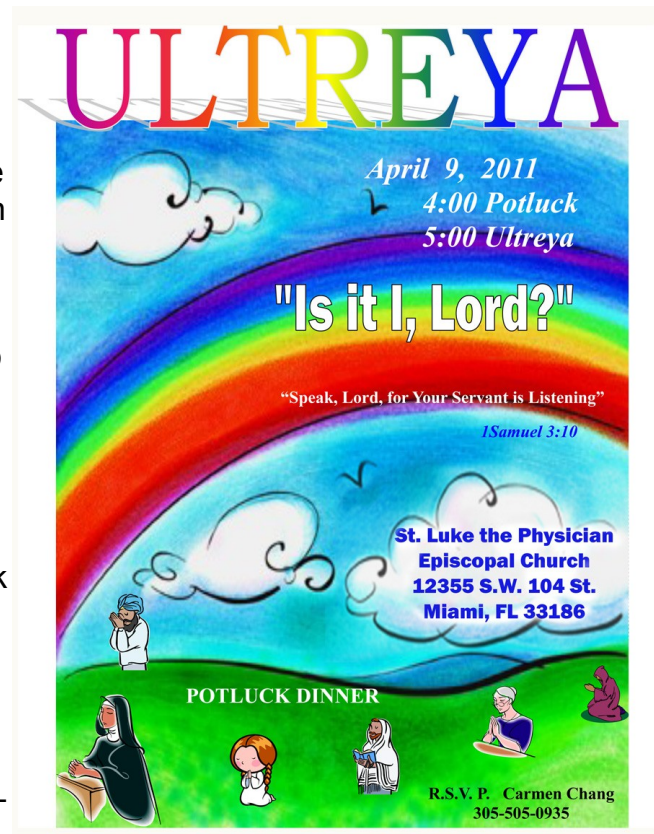
Our Cursillo community is blessed to have three weekends planned for 2011. EWC #105, under the leadership of Barbara (Babs) McKenzie, is scheduled for June 16th-19th. EMC #88, with Vasco Coombs as Rector, is scheduled for July 14th-16th. Team members have been called and both teams have begun their team process. Palanca requests are available both in Counting on You and on the website.

Our third weekend will be a Hispanic/Latino Women's Weekend, EWC #106 to be held September 15th-18th. It will be led by Noelis Rodrigues who attends Todos los Santos in Miami. We were blessed to have Noelis accept this call and she will bring many beautiful gifts to her team and the candidates. As we work towards this weekend, we are asking the Cursillo Community to be especially intentional and prayerful for the success of this weekend.

Our Cursillo community can be very helpful if they will take time to identify members of their parishes who are bi-lingual. If they are Cursillistas, what a gift it would be to have them serve as team members! A few positions have been filled but there are many more yet to be called. Any Spanish Music chas out there? On the other hand, if you have a bi-lingual parishioner who has not made her weekend, then this is a perfect opportunity for them to attend. Please forward any information to Sherry Fleming at slfccf@aol.com.

Please keep these three weekends in your prayers. God is working through our Cursillo movement, through those who serve, and for the men and women whose lives will be touched as they attend one of the weekends.

Sherry Fleming



Saturday, April 9, 2011
4 p.m. Potluck
5 p.m. Ultreya

St. Luke the Physician
Episcopal Church
12355 S.W. 104 St.
Miami, FL 33186

Diocese of SE Florida

Cursillo Calendar 2011

January 15	Secretariat Meeting & Planning Session	10-2:30 St. Paul's Delray
March 12	Secretariat Meeting	2pm – Duncan Center after Conference
April 29 - May 1	ECLW	SW Florida – Dayspring Conference Center
May 1	Cursillo Sunday	observed in Parishes – organized by Rep's.
May 14	Secretariat Meeting	10 am – Holy Family
June 16 - 19	EWC #105	Duncan Center – Babs McKenzie, Rector
July 14 - 17	EMC #88	Duncan Center – Vasco Coombs, Rector
July 17	Secretariat Meeting	2 pm – Stahl Bldg. Duncan Center
Sept. 15 - 18	EWC #106 Spanish	Duncan Center: Noelis Rodriguez, Rector
Sept. 18	Secretariat Meeting	2 pm – Stahl Bldg, Duncan Center
Oct. 29	Diocesan Ultreya	South Sector
Oct. 27 - 30	NECC Conference	Phoenix, Arizona
Nov. 5	Secretariat Meeting	10 am

2012 Dates

January	1st Meeting and Planning Session		
May 3 - 6	EWC #107		
May 17 - 20	EMC #89		
Sept. 28 - 30	ECLeaders Workshop	SE Florida	Duncan Center

Upcoming Cursillo Weekends!



**Barbara McKenzie,
Rectora
EWC #105
June 16 to
19, 2011**



**Vasco Coombs,
Rector
EMC #88
July 14 to
17, 2011**

EPISCOPAL WOMEN'S CURSILLO #105

A stylized illustration of a woman in a white dress, with her arms raised in prayer, set against a purple background with a glowing sun or light source.

LORD,
WHAT
DO
YOU
WANT
ME TO
DO?
ACTS 9:6

Episcopal Men's Cursillo #88

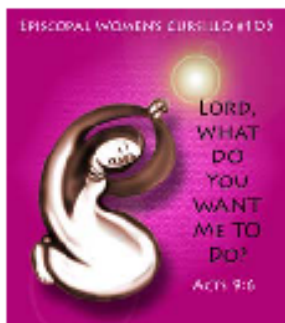
An illustration of a white dove flying in a blue sky, with two hands reaching up from the bottom of the frame.

**Come unto me
ye who are weary
and overburdened,
and I will give you rest.**
Matt: 11:28

**See the Cursillo website for information updates and contact persons . . .
www.sef-cursillo.org**



**Noelis Rodriguez
Rectora, EWC #106
Spanish Women's weekend
September 15-18, 2011**
For more information, contact Sherry
Fleming at slfccf@aol.com



Palanca Opportunities

June 16 – 19, 2011

Rectora: Babs McKenzie	954.495.7036	bogamv@bellsouth.net
General Palanca: Linda Bullen	561.307.2116	lbullen@bellsouth.net
Food Palanca: Karen Antonucci	561.369.0336	k.antonucci@comcast.net

Please keep the candidates and team in your prayers as part of your Palanca. We encourage you to start thinking of the Palanca that your Cursillo community would like to provide and listed below are a few of the items we always appreciate receiving. We also hope your imaginations and creativity will take over to provide something beautiful for your sisters.

GENERAL PALANCA:

Prayer Chain	<i>Number of Items:</i>
42 or 60 Pilgrim Guide covers	90 Dining room
90 Placemats	90 Candidate / Team Pillow
90 Book markers	60 Rollo Room
60 (5 dozen) flowers	42 Candidates Pillow Palanca

Please remember to include a 3"x 5" index card with a description of the Palanca at the top; quantity; whether for pillows, dining room, or rollo room. name of the Church/Reunion Group/person giving the Palanca and any message to be read.

FOOD PALANCA Snacks to serve outside during breaks and for the rollo room

There are a total of 16 breaks with drinks, 11 with snacks

Fruit – Apples, Grapes, Bananas, Pears, etc.
 Cheese cubes/sticks & Crackers
 Baby carrots
 Dried fruit, Trail Mix
 Granola Bars
 Mini cupcakes/muffins
 Home made cookies/brownies
 100 Calorie Snack Packs
 Pretzels
 Nuts
 Mints & Hard candy (individually wrapped)
 Mini- candy bars
 Chewing gum

Desserts:
 Lunch – Friday, Saturday, Sunday
 Dinner – Friday, Saturday (we would love to have rainbow jello!)

Drinks:
 Lots of WATER (large containers, gallon jugs)
 2 liter bottles of soda: Diet, Diet caffeine free, Regular
 Lemonade, Iced Tea
 Red & White Wine
 Sparkling water/cider – nonalcoholic beverage

THANK YOU so much for your help!

Please email or call us when you know what palanca you/your group will be offering for the weekend.

The logo for the weekend is available on the website at www.sef-cursillo.org and can be downloaded

PRAYER FOR OUR CURSILLO MOVEMENT

Dear heavenly Father, we come before you seeking guidance and wisdom as we strive to strengthen our Cursillo Movement. We ask you to bless our diversity, to bind us together by your love in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to guide our hearts in our Fourth Day and to empower us to be faithful to this ministry of servanthood.

Guide our thoughts, inhabit our hearts, give us discernment, and open our eyes to your presence Lord. We pray that in a rainbow of unity, we can use our gifts to your honor and glory. We give you thanks for all our blessings and the opportunity given to us to share in your name with love and joy. Amen.

ADDRESS CORRECTION NOTIFICATION

Let us know if someone you know has an address or name change.
This database is kept current for mailing.

Send corrections to: vascovac@bellsouth.net

Last Name _____ Old Last Name _____

First Name _____ Spouse _____

Old Address _____

New Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____



